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23 July 1970

SECRET

The Honorable Richard M. Helms Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Dick:

I am very pleased that NPIC will shortly rejoin the COINS network. Although the Center will be operating only in a passive mode, this is a good first step. Please extend my thanks to those involved.

In conjunction with this, I recommend appointment of a separate NPIC COINS Subsystem Manager and representatives to each of the panels and working groups, thus assuring effective liaison between my project manager and NPIC.

At this time also, I would like to reiterate our recommendation of 13 May 1970 that you grant a waiver permitting the Headquarters CIA system to operate eight hours daily in COINS at the Top Secret, SI level while concurrently processing sensitive proprietary data.

Though I can appreciate your concern about inadvertent spillage of your proprietary data into the network, our experience shows there are adequate safeguards. NSA has long operated the system (the NSA computer system in COINS) for concurrent processing of SI, TK and compartmented SIGINT data - with no compromises.

I hope your reply will be favorable. If so, you should be able to operate full time in COINS by 1 August.

Warm regards,

NOEL GAYLE

Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy

Director